

By: Craddick

H.C.R. No. 89

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Delegations from the cities of Midland and Odessa  
2 are visiting Austin in honor of Midland-Odessa Day at the State  
3 Capitol on February 13, 2007; and

4 WHEREAS, Situated only 20 miles apart in the Permian Basin on  
5 the southern reaches of the High Plains, these two dynamic Texas  
6 cities have shared a long and storied history; the arrival of the  
7 Texas and Pacific Railway in 1881 transformed each city from a small  
8 cowtown to an important cattle shipping center; and

9 WHEREAS, The Permian Basin oil boom of the 1920s transformed  
10 the cities even further; between 1920 and 1930, the population of  
11 Midland more than doubled, and 36 oil companies had offices in the  
12 city; at the same time Odessa's population quadrupled, and the high  
13 demand for oil during World War II helped make Odessa the home of  
14 the largest inland petrochemical complex in the world; and

15 WHEREAS, Midland remains an important administrative and  
16 business center for the oil industry, while Odessa continues to be  
17 an essential petrochemical processing and distribution site;  
18 meanwhile the cities continue to work together to encourage new and  
19 diverse businesses to locate in the area; and

20 WHEREAS, With the help of the Midland Development Corporation  
21 and the Odessa Development Corporation, several new employers have  
22 been welcomed to the area, including the Texas Access Alliance Call  
23 Center, Countrywide Financial Corporation, and Trace Engines;  
24 support for expanding the region's economic base is also provided

1 by the Center for Energy and Economic Diversification at The  
2 University of Texas of the Permian Basin; and

3 WHEREAS, The city of Midland is proud to be the hometown of  
4 President George W. Bush and First Lady Laura Bush, as well as the  
5 longtime home of former President George H. W. Bush, former First  
6 Lady Barbara Bush, and former Florida Governor Jeb Bush; and

7 WHEREAS, Midland also boasts such fine cultural attractions  
8 as the Museum of the Southwest, featuring works by classical and  
9 Southwestern artists; the Petroleum Museum, where exhibits explain  
10 the history and geology of petroleum in the Permian Basin; and the  
11 American Airpower Heritage Museum of the Commemorative Air Force;  
12 and

13 WHEREAS, Odessa was the first Texas home of former President  
14 George H. W. Bush and former First Lady Barbara Bush; it is also the  
15 home of the Presidential Museum, the only museum in the United  
16 States dedicated to the office of the presidency; the other fine  
17 cultural attractions of Odessa include the Parker House Ranching  
18 Museum; the Ellen Noel Art Museum, "the small museum that does great  
19 things"; and a replica of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre on the campus  
20 of Odessa College, where modern and classical works are staged; and

21 WHEREAS, For over 100 years, citizens of Midland and Odessa  
22 have sought to preserve the best of their past while working to  
23 build a promising future, and they may take justifiable pride in  
24 their contributions to the culture, economy, and traditions of the  
25 Lone Star State; now, therefore, be it

26 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas  
27 hereby designate February 13, 2007, as Midland-Odessa Day at the

1 State Capitol.